



Date: October 15, 2004
To: Gerald R. Miller, City Manager
From: Carl Kemp, Manager of Public/Governmental Affairs
For: Mayor and Members of the City Council
Subject: City Report: Weekly Update For Week Ending October 15, 2004

The following weekly update highlighting various activities for the week ending October 15, 2004 is provided for your information. I hope you will find this information useful. Please feel free to contact my staff should you have any questions.

MAJOR WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

City Manager

The Youth and Gang Violence Prevention Task Force lent its support to the successful application of a \$70,000 grant for a pilot project between the Youth Opportunity Center, Youth Council (LBUSD), and probation staff located at LBUSD High Schools Probation.

The Press Telegram's *Enough is Enough* series on gang activity included information about the Task Force and comprehensively looked at the issue of youth violence and gang activity. Articles will be posted on the Human Dignity Program website.

Members were encouraged to attend the California State University, Long Beach sponsored gang conference on October 14. Charter Communications (an active representative on the Task Force) videotaped the conference.

Health and Human Services

DHHS is working with local media and the community to advise residents about the flu vaccine shortage and to provide steps individuals can take to avoid illness this flu season. Additionally, staff has participated in federal and statewide conference calls, meetings with county officials, and communications with local medical providers regarding the flu vaccine shortage. The state has issued an order that only individuals at highest risk for the flu be vaccinated this year. The Department continues to await word on the availability of any additional vaccine to be provided on a local level.

One new case of West Nile Virus was diagnosed among Long Beach residents this week, bringing the Long Beach total to 15 cases.

MAJOR WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS (continued)

Public Works Department, I-710 Major Corridor Study

The I-710 Tier II Committee, a regional group composed of community representatives and interested organizations and agencies, adopted their final report entitled "Major Opportunity/Strategy Recommendations and Conditions," which primarily addresses the health and air quality impacts of the operation of the I-710 Freeway. In addition to those issues, their report addresses jobs and economic development, safety, noise, congestion and mobility, and community enhancements, as well as environmental justice, financial considerations and conditions. That report was forwarded to the I-710 Technical Advisory Committee and the I-710 Oversight Policy Committee.

On September 9, the I-710 Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) approved a locally preferred strategy for the I-710 Corridor from Ocean Blvd. north based upon the input of the Long Beach I-710 Oversight Committee and the Tier 1 Community Advisory Committees of all of the corridor cities except Commerce and East Los Angeles. The northern portion of the I-710 from Atlantic/Bandini to the 60 Freeway, where the I-5 and 60 Freeways intersect with the I-710, is continuing to be studied in relation to the improvements to those facilities. Once the study is completed and approved by the northern communities, those improvements will be incorporated into the full I-710 Corridor strategy. The I-710 TAC also supported the broad concepts of the Tier II "Major Opportunity/Strategy Recommendations and Conditions" while acknowledging that some of the recommendations would require legislative and/or regulatory changes.

On September 30, the I-710 Oversight Policy Committee (OPC) held a meeting to hear the recommendations of the Tier II Committee and the TAC. Over 24 people were present to support the recommendations of the Tier II committee, particularly the issues regarding health impacts and asthma. The OPC is scheduled to consider action on these reports at their next meeting on October 28.

Public Works, Airport

On October 12, the Airport released its Annual Noise Budget Analysis Report for 2003-04. The annual noise budget analysis is conducted to determine if there is enough room under the City's Noise Compatibility Ordinance to add additional commercial airline flights. Based upon the findings, no additional commercial daily flights can be added in 2004-05. Currently, there are 41 daily commercial flights at the Airport.

Parks, Recreation and Marine Maintenance Operations

The "Lone Sailor" memorial statue was installed at Bluff park during a ceremony on October 13.

MAJOR WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS (continued)

Community Development, Housing Services Bureau

The California Debt Limit Allocation Committee allocated \$11 million in multi-family housing revenue bonds for the West Gateway Jamboree development. The project, which will be developed by Jamboree Housing Corporation, with financial assistance from the Long Beach Housing Development Company, consists of a 64-unit affordable apartment building on Site 1 of the West Gateway planned development area.

The State has awarded \$1,320,000 in Building Equity and Growth in Neighborhood (BEGIN) funds to the City's Housing Services Bureau to be used for second mortgages for the Olive Court development. Olive Court consists of 58 condominium units that will be developed by Livable Places, Inc., on a site that is located on the east side of Long Beach Boulevard, north of the Pacific Coast Highway. The units will be a mix of low- and moderate-income and market-rate units that will be sold to first-time homebuyers. Construction of the new homes will begin in February 2005 and will be completed in approximately 18 months.

Community Development, Redevelopment Agency

On October 11, the Redevelopment Agency approved a Disposition and Development Agreement (DDA) with the Menorah Housing Foundation to build between 73-80 homes for seniors of very-low income. The proposed development will be located on Vernon Street west of Atlantic Avenue. The proposed DDA is on the City Council's October 19 agenda.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND PROJECTS

Parks, Recreation and Marine Community Recreation Services Bureau

On **Saturday, October 16**, Rancho Los Cerritos will host a lecture on Spanish and Mexican California influences on horticulture. Speakers Michael Hardwick and Jerry Sortomme are working on the Huerta Project in Santa Barbara, transforming existing orchard lands back to the chronicled plants that were commonly grown in Alta California prior to 1834. The lecture begins at 10 a.m. and reservations are requested.

Health and Human Services

The Workforce Development Task Force is offering an *Outreach to Cambodians Workshop* on **Monday, October 18**, from 9:00-11:00 am at the Family Health Education Center. The workshop, designed to help participants learn about the top health issues affecting the Cambodian population in Long Beach, will help participants learn effective outreach strategies. The workshop is open to the public.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND PROJECTS (continued)

Public Works, Airport

Once again Long Beach Airport will be the host of the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association Convention. The "AOPA Expo 2004" will be held at the Long Beach Convention Center, **October 21-23**. Mike Melvill, pilot of the first private spaceship, is the keynote speaker at Thursday's opening luncheon. Over 500 General Aviation Industries will be participating in the exhibits. It is estimated that over 1,100 small aircraft will be flying in and parking at the Long Beach Airport. In addition, over 70 aircraft will be on display at the Airport for the public to take a hands-on tour of the hottest aircraft, everything from new glass cockpits and micro jets, to the best options for retrofitting an airplane or buying one.

Parks, Recreation and Marine Maintenance Operations Bureau

Following the grand re-opening ceremonies, the First Annual Cal Olson Charity Tournament will be held at Skylinks at Long Beach on **October 29**. All proceeds from this sold-out tournament will go to funding Long Beach Junior Golf programs.

AWARDS

Police

The Long Beach Police Department Sex Crimes Detail was honored on October 13 with the 2004 California Sexual Assault Investigators Agency (SART) of the Year award. The LBPD Sex Crimes Unit was praised for demonstrating exceptional achievement and commitment to these high standards; exemplifying the SART model of care and inter-agency collaboration; and expanding community awareness of sexual assault prevention. Detective Corporal James Newland, Detective Robert Erickson and Lieutenant Gary Halliday were present at the ceremony to receive the award. SART has a long history of recognizing those who demonstrate a deep commitment to excellence in their quest for resolution for victims, support for the community and the ultimate pursuit of justice.

Community Development, Neighborhood Services Bureau

The California Pools of Hope's "Lifesaver Award" was presented to the Neighborhood Services Bureau for its Nonprofit Assistance Program (NAP) at the 41st Annual Evelyn DuPoint Swim Show and Recognition Event on October 2.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Police

In response to recent spikes in burglary and related crimes, the North Division coordinated and executed a Burglary Task Force. The Task Force was conducted on weekdays during a two-month period to provide a suppressive and proactive presence within high crime areas. The operation resulted in 39 felony arrests, 105 misdemeanor arrests, 146 traffic citations, 17 parking citations and 29 towed vehicles.

PUBLIC SAFETY (continued)

Police

Community Policing Officers coordinated efforts with officers from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to target areas high in violent crime, drug sales and quality of life issues. This was the first joint effort between these two agencies. Their mission was to combat the fraudulent use of federal funds for housing and the crime-related issues that surround it. The weeklong operation resulted in 45 residential inspections of Section 8 funded households. HUD identified and initiated investigations on 13 people who were in violation of their Section 8 contracts. In addition, one search warrant was served which resulted in the arrest of one felony suspect. The total operation included six misdemeanor arrests, 59 field interview cards, and one traffic citation.

Fire

The Fire Department responded to a total of 1,086 emergency calls for service: 104 calls for fires of which 12 involved structures. It also responded to 695 emergency medical calls, 480 requiring paramedics.

NEIGHBORHOODS

Public Works Department, Traffic and Transportation Bureau

The Bureau completed numerous projects to enhance pedestrian safety near schools in the City by installing traffic signals, signage, and crosswalks. Among them were:

- Two traffic signals, signs, and crosswalks were installed in anticipation of the opening of Caesar Chavez School.
- A "Smart" crosswalk was completed at Willow Street and San Vicente Avenue with an audible pedestrian warning device.
- Crosswalks were installed on Lew Davis Drive near Long Beach City College and on Martin Luther King Boulevard and 17th Street near Poly High.
- A bus zone was relocated near Lee Elementary School and fifteen pedestrian "Routes to School" maps were updated.

Parks, Recreation and Marine Maintenance Operations Bureau

El Dorado Tennis Center mainline drain was excavated and replaced with an upgraded system that will stop the mainline stoppages that have been occurring every two to three weeks.

Parks, Recreation and Marine Community Recreation Services Bureau

Twenty members of Friends of Rancho Los Cerritos attended an evening program at the museum on for an update on the Rancho Los Cerritos Master Plan. Board members from the Rancho Los Cerritos Foundation reviewed plan recommendations and shared initial design work for the visitor center, caretaker residence, and California native garden and perimeter landscaping.

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NEIGHBORHOODS (continued)

Parks, Recreation and Marine Planning and Development Bureau

Americans with Disabilities Act improvements continued at Whaley Park with further demolition in the playground area and electrical work in the community center.

The Pre-Bid meeting for the next phase of improvements at Cesar Chavez Park, the water play park located south of the community center, was held on October 15.

The finalized bid and plans for the Rotary Centennial Park were approved and the Notice to Proceed is expected to be issued on October 18.

Community Development, Neighborhood Services Bureau

Neighborhood Services Bureau hosted a tree planting and neighborhood cleanup in North Long Beach on October 9. More than 35 volunteers planted 45 trees and cleaned up the neighborhoods surrounding King-Edison Elementary School.

Community Development, Neighborhood Services Bureau

In fiscal year 2004, the Neighborhood Services Bureau supported 173 community clean-ups throughout the City. These clean-ups attracted 5,366 volunteers who worked to fill 220 dumpsters - totaling 1,980 tons of trash.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Community Development, Neighborhood Services Bureau

The Neighborhood Services Bureau staff has completed outreach for all four phases of the Anaheim Corridor to promote the \$2,000 Commercial Rebate Program. To date, 149 businesses have applied for the program with 52 receiving rebates. In fiscal year 2004, more than 6,600 residents visited the four Community Police Centers managed by the Neighborhood Services Bureau to get assistance with reporting crimes, attend educational workshops, report neighborhood nuisances and learn more about City services.

Community Development, Economic Development Bureau

Staff attended The International Council of Shopping Centers (ICSC) Western Division Conference. More than 4,000 attendees representing shopping center owners, developers, retailers, managers, marketing specialists, investors, lenders and public officials participated in this event. Staff met with prospective developers, retailers and other participants interested in development opportunities in Long Beach. The high level of traffic at the booth indicated that Long Beach remains high on the developer's target list.

Community Development, Economic Development Bureau

The City's Enterprise Zone Tax Incentive Program continues to benefit the local business community. For the period September 27 to October 1, 63 Enterprise Zone vouchers were issued to seven companies. This brings the year-to-date total to 4,560 vouchers issued to 247 companies. Each voucher represents the hiring of an economically disadvantaged person.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (continued)

Community Development, Administrative and Financial Services Bureau

City staff held the bimonthly *"Networking with the City of Long Beach"* workshop on October 5. The event helps assist small businesses expand networking opportunities with local businesses, the City of Long Beach and other public entities.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Parks, Recreation and Marine, Special Events and Filming Bureau

Fire and Police

ICR Marathon was held on October 10. Over 13,000 runners, bikers, and inline skaters participated in the event. The Long Beach Police and Fire teams competed in the 5K Race.

Parks, Recreation and Marine Special Events and Filming Bureau

The three-day Breast Cancer Walk, with an estimated attendance of 2,500, was held October 8-10 on various city streets and at El Dorado Park.

Approximately 500 people participated in the 2nd Saturday Art Walk held on October 9 in the East Village Art District, on Linden Avenue between Broadway and Naples Plaza Park.

CBS Productions, with a cast and crew of 75, filmed CSI Miami at El Dorado East, East Ocean Blvd., and 39th Place on October 13 and 14.

Paramount Pictures, with a cast and crew of 200, filmed "The Longest Yard" on October 11 at St. Anthony's Gym/Armory.

OTHER ITEMS OF NOTE

Human Resources

On September 7, the City Council approved the City's budget for Fiscal Year 2005. The new budget includes the elimination of approximately 200 positions in accordance with the Three-year Financial Strategic Plan and other program cuts.

The Department of Human Resources, in conjunction with the City Manager's Office and the Financial Management Department, has identified that 34 of the 200 positions eliminated are currently filled with employees. The Department of Human Resources meetings with the departments regarding the 34 impacted employees and transitions are now taking place. First, efforts will be made to transfer impacted employees to vacant positions in the same classification within the Department. If the Department does not have vacant positions available, a request for an Order of Layoff will be submitted to the Civil Service Commission. An Order of Layoff will provide the necessary tools to place the remaining employees in new positions. In addition, the Department of Human Resources is developing a transition plan for those unclassified employees whose positions have been eliminated.

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OTHER ITEMS OF NOTE (continued)

Long Beach Energy, Gas Services Bureau

The Gas Services Bureau completed a total of 2,644 service calls during the week of October 3 through October 9, 2004. This total included 923 Gas and Water Utility Turn On orders, and 708 Turn Off orders. There were 832 Customer Service Orders for services that included lighting pilots, adjusting and inspecting appliances, completing fumigation orders, and verifying read orders. A total of 181 meter maintenance and billing-related orders were completed. Of the total number of service calls received, 107 customer emergency orders were completed.

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Cc: Christine Shippey, Assistant City Manager
Reginald Harrison, Deputy City Manager
Suzanne Mason, Deputy City Manager
City Manager Department Heads
Kathy Parsons, Public Information Officer
Jyl Marden, City Council Liaison